

January 9, 1984

LB 140

you the number of people that came from far and wide to speak against that little bill that said, let's quit taking taxpayers dollars and giving them to the the Chambers of Commerce across the state, especially when the Chambers of Commerce very often are asking for things that people don't even want. Senator Lamb said he is afraid that this \$10,000 is going to grow. I guess he will never vote to give any more money to the Office of Economic Development for business because that will probably grow too. In fact, I doubt if the people that have spoken against this humongous \$10,000 which probably isn't going to amount to ten cents per taxpayer if you consider all the individual taxpayers and the corporations. It is probably going to cost each and every one of them, maybe, ten cents, I'll be big about it, fifty cents, but whatever, I can assume that nobody that has spoken against this \$10,000 appropriation is going to vote to appropriate anything else that they think might be back at a later date asking for more, even though there is no assurance of that. You and I have been lobbied daily during session by the League of Municipalities and by the Nebraska Association of County Officials. Where do they get their money? They get their money from the taxpayers and the cities and the counties and again, the people don't have any voice in what they are lobbying for and they are usually here for what they think is good for the big boys. But along come a bunch of senior citizens who say, we want a voice in the state government, we want you to know our concerns and here is the ten things we are concerned with most, ten bills that we have ironed out, fought and argued with ourselves that we would like you to consider. Senator Howard Peterson says, let them run for the office like the rest of us. They have the opportunity, granted. They have the opportunity but they don't have the money. They aren't all bankers. They aren't all high financiers. They aren't all retired with a bankroll of \$100,000 CDs. Now I am going to vote against this kill motion because somebody else in here might come up with an appropriation later on and I wouldn't want to get up and say, well, we ought not appropriate this, they might be back in another year wanting more money, and I don't want to be put in that position where somebody is going to call me on it. Besides that, if we are going to listen to the lobbyists for the League of Municipalities and the county governments and Chambers of Commerce, are you saying you won't listen to the senior